



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

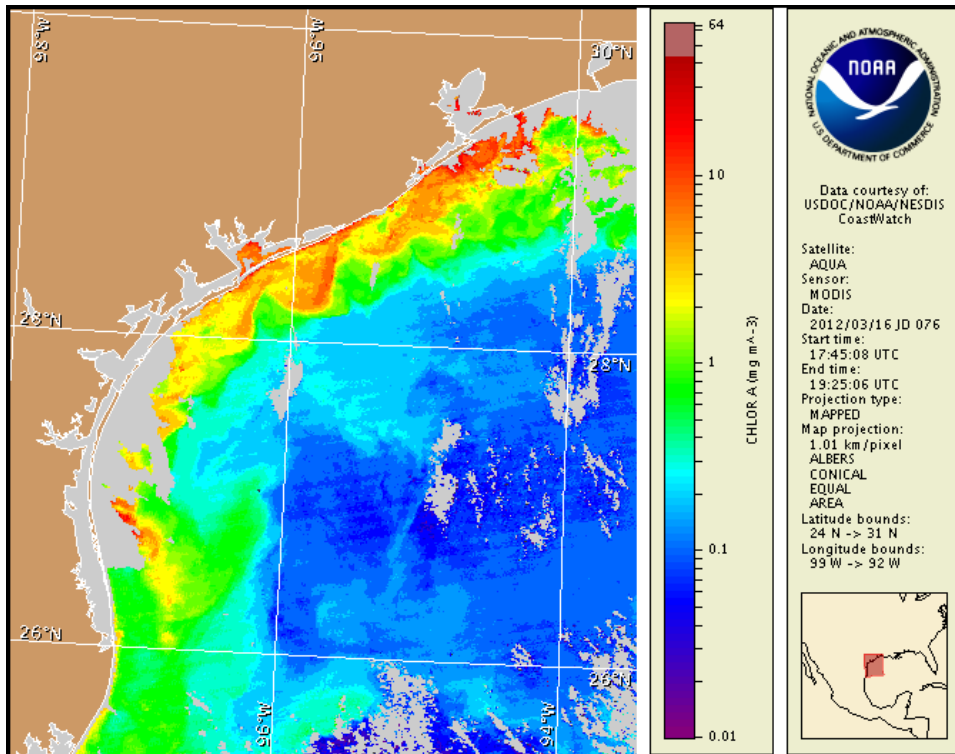
Monday, 19 March 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 12, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 9 to 14 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfbs_bulletin_guide.pdf

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:
<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

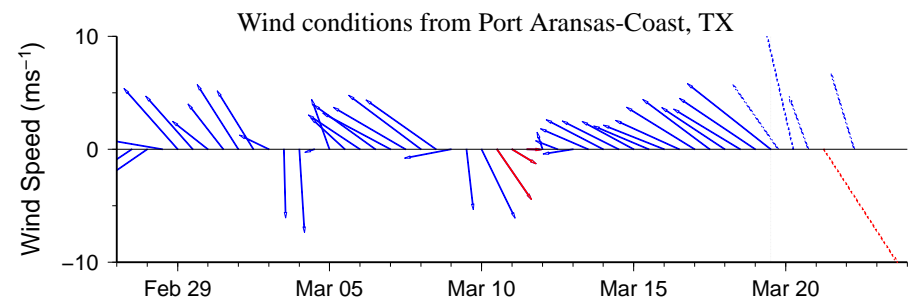
Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* (Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, March 25. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) continues to monitor waters impacted by recent blooms of the harmful algae *Karenia brevis* (red tide) for safe shellfish harvesting. For information on area shellfish closures, contact DSHS.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* at the coast in Texas. No new reports of *Dinophysis* have been received from Port Aransas or elsewhere along the Texas coast, since very low concentrations were identified by the Imaging FlowCytobot, located at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute pier in Port Aransas, almost two weeks ago (TAMU). Recent MODIS imagery (3/16, shown left) is partially obscured by clouds from Sabine Pass to Bolivar Roads Pass and from Aransas Pass to the South Padre Island area, limiting analysis. Elevated to high chlorophyll (3 to $>10\mu\text{g/L}$) is visible stretching along- and offshore the Texas coast from Sabine Pass to South Padre Island. Elevated chlorophyll is not indicative of the presence of *K. brevis*; it is most likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast. Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 40km south from the Port Aransas region from March 16 to 22.

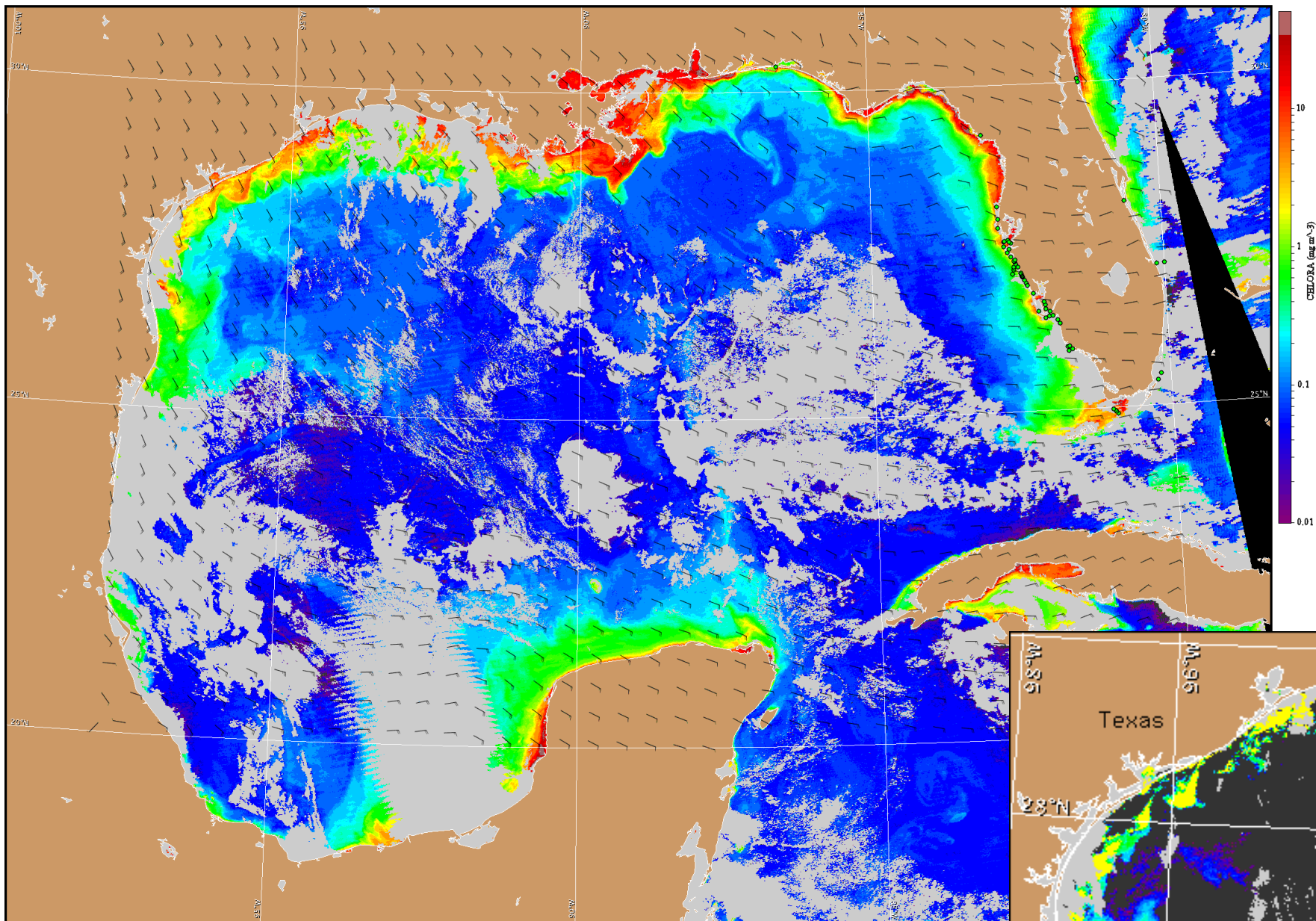
Kavanaugh, Derner



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

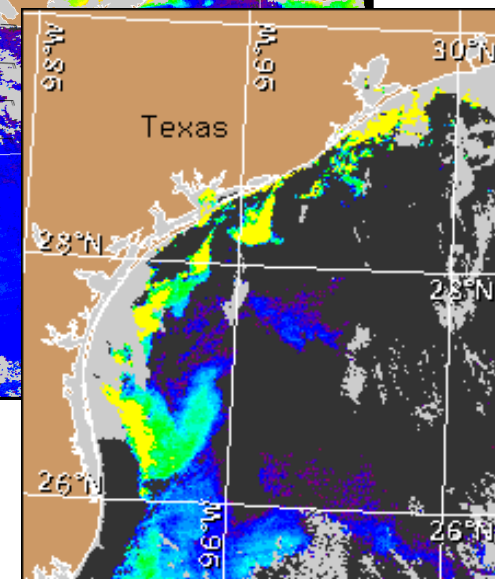
Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: Southeast to south winds (15-30 kn, 8-15 m/s) today through Tuesday. North winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) Tuesday night becoming west winds (25-30 kn, 13-15 m/s) after midnight. Northwest winds (20-25 kn, 10-13 m/s) Wednesday becoming south-west winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) in the afternoon. East to southeast winds (5-15 kn, 3-8 m/s) Wednesday night through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 20, 2012 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 9 to 14 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).